

CLAIMS

I CLAIM:

1. A surgical method for treating female urinary incontinence, said method comprising:

identifying a surgical exit point on a horizontal line above the urethral plane where a surgical needle will exit at a thigh of a patient,

making an incision of the vaginal wall,

performing a para-urethral dissection towards the ischio pubic ramus while avoiding a perforation of the vaginal wall,

rotating the surgical needle around the ischio pubic ramus, and

penetrating the previously identified surgical exit point from inside the patient with a tip of the surgical needle.

2. The surgical method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a tape is attached to the surgical needle prior to the surgical needle being passed through the exit point.

3. The surgical method as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of a string and a tube is attached to the surgical needle after the tip of the surgical needle passes through the exit point.

4. The surgical method as claimed in claim 3, wherein

the surgical needle is rotated back towards the sub-urethral vaginal opening after the one of the string and the tube are attached to the surgical needle.

5. The surgical method as claimed in claim 4, where a tape is attached to the one of the string and the tube and the tape is pulled internally of the patient by removal of the one of the string and the tube from the exit point.

6. The surgical method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surgical needle is removed from a handle after the surgical needle passes through the obturator foramen.

7. A surgical needle for use in treating female urinary incontinence, said surgical needle comprising:

a handle,

a straight section having two ends, one end of said straight section being connected to said handle, and

a spiral section having two ends, one end of said spiral section being connected at a junction to the other end of said straight section,

the other end of said spiral section being a free end terminating in a tip.

8. The surgical needle as claimed in claim 7, wherein the spiral section has a length defining one-half to three-quarters

of a circle.

9. The surgical needle as claimed in claim 7, wherein the tip of the spiral section is located in a vertical plane located at a horizontal distance of 4 to 8 cm from the junction.

10. The surgical needle as claimed in claim 7, wherein the tip of the spiral section is spaced above the junction by, at the most, 3.5 cm.

11. The surgical needle as claimed in claim 7, wherein the spiral section has a diameter of 2 to 5 mm and a length of 6 to 18 cm.

12. The surgical needle as claimed in claim 11, wherein the tip of the spiral section includes an eyelet.

13. The surgical needle as claimed in claim 11, wherein the tip of the spiral section includes curled segments.

14. The surgical needle as claimed in claim 7, wherein the spiral section further comprises one linear segment.

15. The surgical needle as claimed in claim 7, wherein the spiral section has a diameter of 2 to 5 mm and a length of 4.5 to 17.6 cm.

16. The surgical needle as claimed in claim 7, wherein said junction releasably holds the spiral section.

17. The surgical needle as claimed in claim 16, wherein the spiral section has a diameter of 2 to 5 mm and a length of 6 to 18 cm.

18. A tube supporting needle comprising the spiral section of the needle as claimed in claim 7 and having a closed pointed end.

19. An arrow-like tube comprising a lateral opening for introduction of the tube supporting needle according to claim 18.

20. An arrow-like tube according to claim 19 made of high density polyethylene.

21. An arrow-like tube according to claim 19 having its proximal end bound to a tape.

22. An introducer comprising an open tubular segment for receiving the linear segment of the surgical needle as claimed in claim 14.